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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/28/07

SPONSOR Griego LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Acequia Day SB SM 35

ANALYST Guambaña

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From
Public Education Department (PED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 35 requests the recognition of the acequias as cultural patrimony of the State of New Mexico and would also declare February 15, 2007 as “Acequia Day” at the New Mexico Legislature.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

PED maintains that acequias are community-based systems of irrigation and water governance. Acequias also refer to the community of farmers that cooperatively maintain the ditches and share water through custom and tradition. Acequias formed the basis for settlement of New Mexico's Indo-Hispano communities between 200 and 400 years ago and continue to be vital to the cultural and economic survival of the traditional communities of New Mexico. Acequias continue today for water governance and enhance cohesion among members of the community.

AG/nt